

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. A method for managing use of a software code by a selected application program,
2 comprising:
3 detecting the use of the software code;
4 identifying the selected application program that is using the software code; and
5 confirming a conflict between the selected application program and the software
6 code.
- 1 2. The method of claim 1, further including:
2 configuring a database having a plurality of application programs, wherein each
3 one of the plurality of application programs corresponds to at least one
4 designated software code, wherein the plurality of application programs
5 includes the selected application program, and wherein the corresponding
6 at least one designated software code is not the software code used by the
7 selected application program.
- 1 3. The method of claim 2, wherein configuring the database further includes:
2 obtaining information relating to at least one of the plurality of application
3 programs and corresponding at least one designated software code in a
4 non-automated fashion.
- 1 4. The method of claim 2, wherein at least one of the plurality of application
2 programs is associated with an executable code, and wherein configuring the
3 database further includes:
4 obtaining information relating to the at least one of the plurality of application
5 programs and the corresponding at least one designated software code by
6 automated examination of the executable code; and
7 entering the information into the database.

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- 1 5. The method of claim 2, wherein configuring the database further includes:
2 entering information relating to the at least one of the plurality of application
3 programs and the corresponding at least one designated software code by
4 using a snapshot of installation activity required for the at least one of the
5 plurality of application programs.
- 1 6. The method of claim 2, wherein at least one of the plurality of applications
2 programs is associated with a system resident installation package, and wherein
3 configuring the database further includes:
4 entering information relating to the at least one of the plurality of application
5 programs and the corresponding at least one designated software code by
6 automated examination of the system resident installation package.
- 1 7. The method of claim 2, wherein confirming a conflict between the software code
2 and the selected application program further includes:
3 determining that the software code is not the same as the corresponding at least
4 one designated software code.
- 1 8. The method of claim 7, wherein the corresponding at least one designated
2 software code has a version number which differs from a version number
3 associated with the software code used by the selected application program, and
4 wherein determining that the improper software code is not the same as the
5 corresponding at least one designated software code further includes:
6 determining the version number of the corresponding at least one designated
7 software code and the version number of the software code used by the
8 selected application program; and
9 comparing the version number of the corresponding at least one designated
10 software code to the version number of the software code used by the
11 selected application program.

- 1 9. The method of claim 1, wherein the software code is a software library, and
2 wherein detecting use of the software code further includes:
3 enabling detection of a library loading operation.
- 1 10. The method of claim 9, wherein enabling detection of a library loading operation
2 further includes:
3 setting a software hook activated by the library loading operation.
- 1 11. The method of claim 1, further including:
2 configuring a database having a plurality of application programs, wherein each
3 one of the plurality of application programs corresponds to at least one
4 designated software code, wherein the plurality of application programs
5 includes the selected application program, and wherein the corresponding
6 at least one designated software code is the same as the software code used
7 by the selected application program.
- 1 12. The method of claim 1, wherein identifying the selected application program
2 further includes:
3 determining a file name of the selected application program.
- 1 13. The method of claim 1, wherein the selected application program has an
2 application version number, and wherein identifying the selected application
3 program further includes:
4 determining the application version number.
- 1 14. The method of claim 1, further including:
2 reporting the conflict; and
3 alerting a selected party regarding the conflict.

1 15. The method of claim 14, wherein the selected party is an end user of the selected
2 application program.

1 16. The method of claim 1, further including:
2 reporting the conflict; and
3 activating an alarm.

1 17. A computer workstation, comprising:
2 a processor module; and
3 a machine-accessible medium communicatively coupled to the processor module,
4 the machine-accessible medium having instructions associated therewith
5 for managing use of a software code by a selected application program,
6 which when executed are capable of causing the processor module to
7 perform:
8 detecting the use of the software code;
9 identifying the selected application program that is using the
10 software code; and
11 confirming a conflict between the software code and the selected
12 application program.

1 18. The computer workstation of claim 17, further including:
2 configuring a database having a plurality of application programs, wherein each
3 one of the plurality of application programs corresponds to at least one
4 designated software code, wherein the plurality of application programs
5 includes the selected application program, and wherein the corresponding
6 at least one designated software code is not the software code used by the
7 selected application program.

1 19. The computer workstation of claim 18, wherein at least one of the plurality of
2 application programs is associated with an executable code, and wherein
3 configuring the database further includes:
4 obtaining information relating to the at least one of the plurality of application
5 programs and the corresponding at least one designated software code by
6 automated examination of the executable code; and
7 entering the information into the database.

1 20. The computer workstation of claim 18, wherein confirming a conflict between the
2 software code and the selected application program further includes:
3 determining that the software code used by the selected application program is not
4 the same as the corresponding at least one designated software code.

1 21. The computer workstation of claim 20, wherein the corresponding at least one
2 designated software code has a version number which differs from a version
3 number associated with the software code used by the selected application
4 program, and wherein determining that the software code used by the selected
5 application program is not the same as the corresponding at least one designated
6 software code further includes:
7 determining the version number of the corresponding at least one designated
8 software code and the version number of the software code used by the
9 selected application program; and
10 comparing the version number of the corresponding at least one designated
11 software code to the version number of the software code used by the
12 selected application program.

1 22. The computer workstation of claim 17, wherein the software code is a software
2 library, and wherein detecting use of the software code further includes:
3 enabling detection of a library loading operation.

- 1 23. The computer workstation of claim 22, wherein enabling detection of a library
2 loading operation further includes:
3 setting a software hook activated by the library loading operation.
- 1 24. The computer workstation of claim 17, further including:
2 configuring a database having a plurality of application programs, wherein each
3 one of the plurality of application programs corresponds to at least one
4 designated software code, wherein the plurality of application programs
5 includes the selected application program, and wherein the corresponding
6 at least one designated software code is the same as the software code used
7 by the selected application program.

- 1 25. A computer system network, comprising:
2 a server comprising:
3 a processor module;
4 a machine-accessible medium communicatively coupled to the processor
5 module, the machine-accessible medium having instructions associated
6 therewith for managing use of a software code by a selected application
7 program, which when executed are capable of causing the processor
8 module to perform:
9 detecting the use of the software code;
10 identifying the selected application program that is using the
11 software code; and
12 confirming a conflict between the software code and the selected
13 application program; and
14 a client communicatively coupled to the server, wherein execution of the
15 selected application program is initiated by the client.

1 26. The computer system network of claim 25, further including:
2 configuring a database having a plurality of application programs, wherein each
3 one of the plurality of application programs corresponds to at least one
4 designated software code, wherein the plurality of application programs
5 includes the selected application program, and wherein the corresponding
6 at least one designated software code is not the software code used by the
7 selected application program.

1 27. The computer system network of claim 26, wherein at least one of the plurality of
2 application programs is associated with an executable code, and wherein
3 configuring the database further includes:
4 obtaining information relating to the at least one of the plurality of application
5 programs and the corresponding at least one designated software code by
6 automated examination of the executable code; and
7 entering the information into the database.

1 28. The computer system network of claim 26, wherein the database is stored on the
2 server.

1 29. The computer system network of claim 25, wherein confirming a conflict between
2 the software code and the selected application program further includes:
3 determining that the software code is not the same as the corresponding at least
4 one designated software code.

1 30. The computer system network of claim 25, further including:
2 configuring a database having a plurality of application programs, wherein each
3 one of the plurality of application programs corresponds to at least one
4 designated software code, wherein the plurality of application programs
5 includes the selected application program, and wherein the corresponding

6 at least one designated software code is the same as the software code used
7 by the selected application program.

1 31. A machine-accessible medium having instructions associated therewith for
2 managing use of a software code by a selected application program, which when
3 executed are capable of causing a processor module to perform:
4 detecting the use of the software code;
5 identifying the selected application program that is using the software
6 code; and
7 confirming a conflict between the improper software code and the selected
8 application program.

1 32. The machine-accessible medium of claim 31, having instructions associated
2 therewith which when executed are capable of causing the processor module to
3 further perform:
4 configuring a database having a plurality of application programs, wherein each
5 one of the plurality of application programs corresponds to at least one
6 designated software code, wherein the plurality of application programs
7 includes the selected application program, and wherein the corresponding
8 at least one designated software code is not the software code used by the
9 selected application program.

1 33. The machine-accessible medium of claim 32, wherein at least one of the plurality
2 of application programs is associated with an executable code, and wherein
3 configuring the database further includes:
4 obtaining information relating to the at least one of the plurality of application
5 programs and the corresponding at least one designated software code by
6 automated examination of the executable code; and
7 entering the information into the database.

- 1 34. The machine-accessible medium of claim 31, wherein confirming a conflict
2 between the software code and the selected application program further includes:
3 determining that the software code used by the selected application program is not
4 the same as the corresponding at least one designated software code.
- 1 35. The machine-accessible medium of claim 34, wherein the corresponding at least
2 one designated software code has a version number which differs from a version
3 number associated with the software code used by the selected application
4 program, and wherein determining that the software code used by the selected
5 application program is not the same as the corresponding at least one designated
6 software code further includes:
7 determining the version number of the proper software code and the version
8 number of the improper software code; and
9 comparing the version number of the corresponding at least one designated
10 software code to the version number of the software code used by the
11 selected application program.
- 1 36. The machine-accessible medium of claim 31, wherein the software code is a
2 software library, and wherein detecting use of the software code further includes:
3 enabling detection of a library loading operation.
- 1 37. The machine-accessible medium of claim 31, having instructions associated
2 therewith which when executed are capable of causing the processor module to
3 further perform:
4 configuring a database having a plurality of application programs, wherein each
5 one of the plurality of application programs corresponds to at least one
6 designated software code, wherein the plurality of application programs
7 includes the selected application program, and wherein the corresponding
8 at least one designated software code is the same as the software code used
9 by the selected application program.